

The story of those aboard the Exodus 1947 and their harrowing journey to Haifa was immortalized in Leon Uris's novel *Exodus* and subsequent film featuring the character Ari Ben-Canaan based on Harel himself and played by Paul Newman.

Though Harel is best known for commanding *Exodus 1947*, he also led three other ships to the shores of Israel, helping 24,000 refugees find safe harbor in the Promised Land—all by the time he was 28.

Today we mourn the loss of a great hero, who not only touched the lives of these 24,000 refugees and won the admiration of millions of people worldwide, but also came to symbolize the determination and pluck of the modern state of Israel.

IN MEMORY OF CHARLES  
MEADERS

**HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mr. PICKERING. Madam Speaker, A man name Charles Meaders from Newton, Mississippi had a soldier's heart, a soldier's honor, and responded to our Nation's call with a soldier's duty. He passed away last month but due to a twist of fate, he did not receive soldier's burial.

Mr. Meaders was in the United States Armed Forces during the Korean conflict. However, he contracted a serious case of pneumonia and was shipped home and discharged, short of the time required to be recognized for veterans' benefits. I've known the Meaders family for a long time and they are educators, soldiers, and hard working Mississippians. Mrs. Bobbie Meaders, who dearly loved her husband Charles, is an active and feisty 72-year-old former nurse.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the memory of Charles Meaders and for my office to deliver to his wife her only request, a proper American flag that memorializes her husband's service to the American armed forces. I hope Congress joins me and remembering this patriot and will hold Mrs. Bobbie Meaders in your thoughts during her time of grief.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately last night, May 5, 2008, I was unable to cast my votes on H. Res. 952, the vote to table the motion to reconsider H. Res. 952, H. Res. 1011, the vote to table the motion to reconsider H. Res. 1011, and the motion to adjourn and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall #240 on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 952, to establish a National Teacher's Day, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall #241 on tabling the motion to reconsider the vote on H. Res. 952, I would have voted "nay."

Had I been present for rollcall #242 on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 1011, Calling on the United States Government and the international community to promptly develop, fund, and implement a comprehensive regional strategy to protect civilians, facilitate humanitarian operations, contain and reduce violence, and contribute to conditions for sustainable peace and good governance in Chad, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall #243 on tabling the motion to reconsider the vote on H. Res. 1011, I would have voted "nay."

Had I been present for rollcall #244 on the motion to adjourn, I would have voted "aye."

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2008  
SERVICE ACADEMY APPOINTEES

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I want to congratulate the 2008 Service Academy appointees from the 21st Congressional District. The following individuals have accepted academy appointments:

Harrison Michael Green, Believers Academy, Air Force Academy; Blair William Kessler, Boerne High School, Air Force Academy; Robert Francis Belz, Health Careers High School, Air Force Academy; Lucas Samuel Johnson, Boerne High School, Air Force Academy; Philip Nicholas Valenzo, MacArthur High School, Air Force Academy; David Kirby Ford, Antonian College Preparatory High School, Military Academy; Nicholas Enrique Ocegueda, New Braunfels High School/US Military Prep School, Military Academy; Thomas Reagan Schiller, Vista Ridge High School, Military Academy; Raymond Anthony Gonzales II, Reagan High School, Military Academy; Karen Elaine Gilkey, MacArthur High School, Merchant Marine Academy; and Padraig G. O'Hara, Fredericksburg High School, Merchant Marine Academy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DEAN HELLER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mr. HELLER of Nevada. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 240, H. Res. 952—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that there should be established a National Teacher Day to honor and celebrate teachers in the United States, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING THOMAS S. CONLEY,  
SR. OF DADE CITY, FLORIDA

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an American soldier who was wounded in service

to our Nation during the conflict in Vietnam. Mr. Thomas S. Conley, Sr. is a Marine who served with honor and distinction on the battlefield. It is truly an honor to present this brave patriot with his long overdue Purple Heart Medal.

Born in Wheeling, West Virginia, Mr. Conley's family moved to Pittsburgh when he was in ninth grade. Enlisting in the Marine Corps at the age of eighteen, Mr. Conley was one of about seventy-eight enlistees dubbed the "Pittsburgh Pirate Platoon" when, all gathered around home plate for the ceremony, they were sworn into the Marines in the 7th inning of a baseball game at Forbes Field.

After completing his basic training at Parris Island, South Carolina, Mr. Conley went on to attend radio operator school in California and then served as the 2531 Field Radio Operator with the 9th Marines in Vietnam. Near the end of his tour of duty, his unit was near the Rock Pile in the Northern Eye Core of Vietnam when a mortar round landed between Mr. Conley and another soldier. The other man was thrown twenty-three feet and killed, while Mr. Conley ended up with shrapnel throughout his body.

A third generation soldier whose grandfather served in World War I and his father in World War II, Mr. Conley's wounds sadly forced him to leave the military. He had planned to make a career in the Marines, but after the blast injured him in Vietnam he returned to Bethesda Naval Hospital where he remained for thirteen months prior to being discharged. Continuing the tradition of military service, Mr. Conley's three sons have all served in the Marine Corps, and one has had four tours of duty in Iraq.

Madam Speaker, it is soldiers like Thomas S. Conley, Sr. who joined the military to protect the freedoms that all Americans hold dear. While brave men like Mr. Conley were wounded fighting for freedom and liberty, his family, friends and loved ones know that this Congress will always remember his bravery and commitment in battle.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF  
DONALD L. ROBINSON

**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I would like to use this opportunity today to pay tribute to a great American who just recently and unexpectedly passed away.

Donald Robinson worked in the Office of Naval Intelligence and as a Chief of Staff and Staff Director on Capitol Hill in his younger years, but he is perhaps remembered best as a mentor to the hundreds of young people who came to Washington, DC to pursue an internship on Capitol Hill or with the Federal Government.

For 25 years, Donald L. Robinson worked with his wife, Sara Robinson, as a Director of the Boston University Washington Internship Program.

Madam Speaker, I pay tribute to the contribution he and his wife Sara made to enrich the lives of young people in who came to Washington to try out public service. He will be missed greatly. I would like to take the opportunity to submit his obituary in the Congressional Record today and to thank him for

assisting in launching many successful, meaningful careers.

[May 2, 2008.]

DONALD L. "ROBBIE" ROBINSON, PH.D., 71, CONGRESSIONAL STAFFER; B.U. POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR

WELLFLEET.—Donald Louis "Robbie" Robinson, Ph.D., 71, a retired congressional staffer and political science professor at Boston University, died in his sleep at his home in Wellfleet, on Tuesday, April 29, 2008.

Robbie is survived by his wife of 45 years, Sara Moore Robinson. He is also survived by his daughter, Moore, his son, Marshall, his daughter-in-law, Jennifer, and his granddaughter, Aila.

Robbie was born in Ottawa, Ill., in 1936. In his youth, he was a talented trumpet player and tap dancer, who won numerous prizes. He received an academic scholarship to Northwestern University, from which he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1958, and a Master of Arts degree in 1959. While at Northwestern, he earned spending money playing trumpet in a dance band, and was a member of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

Robbie joined the Navy in the Officer Training Program, and moved to Washington, D.C., where he served in the Office of Naval Intelligence for 3½ years. During his tenure in the Navy, he began a doctoral program in International Relations at American University in Washington, D.C. He left the Navy in 1962 and received his Ph.D. in 1963.

It was at a friend's Sunday brunch, over bagels, where he met his future wife, Sara Moore, a congressional staffer. The two fell in love and were married in 1962. They had two children, a son, Marshall, in 1969, and a daughter, Margaret "Moore," born in 1971.

Dr. Robinson worked as a congressional staffer for 13 years, before retiring on disability in 1976 after being diagnosed with Crohn's disease. He was then hired by Boston University to develop a Washington, D.C., Internship Program, which he ran for 25 years. In addition, he developed internship programs for Case Western Reserve and the University of Houston. He was appointed by President Bill Clinton to be a member of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science. Dr. Robinson and his wife, an attorney, retired together and moved from Washington, D.C., to Wellfleet in 2001.

Robbie was deeply involved with the Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C., first at St. Stephen and the Incarnation, and then at St. Columba's Church, where he was a lay minister. After retirement, he was a lector, lay minister and administrator of the healing rite at St. Mary of the Harbor, Provincetown.

At the time of his death, he was president of the Wellfleet Historical Society, treasurer of the Cape Cod Opera, the only nonsinging member of the board of the Outer Cape Choral, a Freemason and a Shriner. Last year, he and his wife joined dear friends on a guided tour through the Baltic States and Russia.

Robbie loved his family very much, and was delighted to meet his adored first grandchild, Aila, in January. Despite his history of chronic illness, his death came suddenly and unexpectedly, and is a great loss for all who knew him for his indomitable good cheer, his delight of conversation and his sheer enjoyment of life. He will be missed tremendously.

A memorial celebration will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2008, at 3 p.m., at St. Mary of the Harbor in Provincetown.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Wellfleet Historical Society (Please note: Attention Robbie Robinson Fund) at 266 Main St., Wellfleet, MA 02667.

#### HONORING MAJOR BERNARD WARRINGTON

#### HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend a soldier from my district, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Major Bernard Warrington, Jr., who will be promoted today to lieutenant colonel. Bernard Warrington, Jr., was born in Christiansted, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands in 1970. He attended public school there and graduated from Central High School in 1988. Since that time, he has distinguished himself as a soldier and a scholar, working his way up in the military, first as an infantry officer in 1992, in the 2nd Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 24th Infantry Division at Ft. Benning, Georgia. While assigned to the 3rd Brigade, he deployed to Kuwait in support of Operation Southern Watch.

In 1996, he relocated to Ft. Hood, Texas, where he served with the 1st Cavalry Division Support Command, (DISCOM), as its Plans Officer and Assistant Brigade Operations Officer. He was then reassigned to 615th Aviation Support Battalion (ASB) to command its Headquarters and Supply Company (HSC) and deployed with the 1st Cavalry Division to Bosnia, Herzegovina, in support of Operation Stabilization Forces Four (SPOR4).

Major Warrington then served as the Combat Service Support (CSS) Team Chief for the 348th Training Support Brigade (TSB) Ft. Buchanan, Puerto Rico, responsible for training U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard Forces. He was next assigned within the U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM) as a G4 Power Projection Logistics Planner and Crisis Action Team member for CENTCOM during Operation Enduring Freedom.

He was deployed in 2003 to meet the 101st Corps Support Group (CSG) in Mosul, Iraq, where he served as its Brigade Operations Planner, Deputy Brigade S3 during Operation Iraqi Freedom I during its reconstitution at Ft. Campbell.

From July 2004 to December 2006, he served as both the Battalion Executive Officer and Support Operations Officer for 8th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment, during which time he redeployed in 2005, with the battalion to Tikrit, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom IV.

Since December 2006, Major Warrington has been assigned as a plans officer to HQDA DCS g-3/5/7. He also served as an Army Congressional Associate within the office of Senator CLAIRE G. MCCASKILL. He currently serves on the Army Staff in the Army Transformation Office.

During his time in the military, Major Warrington has earned an associate of arts degree in business administration and military science from Georgia Military College, a bachelor of business administration from Georgia

College and State University, a masters of business administration in industrial operations management from InterAmerican University in Puerto Rico and has graduated from the Command and General Staff College with the Combined Logistics Officer Advance Course and the Infantry Officer Basic Course.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Meritorious Unit Citation, the Army Superior Unit Award Badge, the U.S. Army Staff Badge, the Honorable Order of St. Michael, and the Honorable Order of St. Martin.

Major Warrington is married to the former TaMekii Clark of Conyers, Georgia, and they have two children, Naomi and Claude Nigel.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the people of the U.S. Virgin Islands and the 110th Congress, I am pleased to recognize the achievements of Bernard Warrington, Jr., as he is promoted from Major to lieutenant colonel and I wish him continued success in his illustrious military career.

#### HONORING JERRY PRIETO, JR.

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jerry Prieto, Jr. upon being honored with the "Fresno County Farm Bureau Distinguished Service Award" at the Fresno County Farm Bureau's Annual Banquet to be held on Thursday, May 8, 2008.

Jerry Prieto, Jr. is a native of Corcoran, California. He is the son of a former migrant farm worker and was raised in a small town with a small family. Mr. Prieto attended California State University, Fresno and obtained his Bachelor's of Science degree in Plant Science. In 1974 he began working for the Fresno County Department of Agriculture and six years later he obtained the position of Deputy Agricultural Commissioner. After nine years he went to work for Fresno County Personnel Department as a Senior Personnel Analyst. In 1993, Mr. Prieto was appointed Fresno County Resource Manager. He was responsible for solid waste issues throughout the county and operated the American Avenue Regional Landfill, the Southeast Regional Landfill and the Coalinga Landfill. He was also responsible for providing road maintenance, street lighting, garbage collection, parks, sewer and water services to ninety special districts.

In 1999, Mr. Prieto was appointed to the position of Fresno County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weight and Measures exactly twenty-five years after he began working for the department. He was responsible for promoting and regulating the nation's number one agriculture producing area. Mr. Prieto also served as a member of Governor Gray Davis' State Committee on Terrorism and the Western Weights and Measures Association Board